

10/527194

DT18 Rec'd PCT/PTO 05 AUG 2004

14 figs

**NECKTIE WITH THREE OR MORE PARTS IN SIGHT
AND KNOT WITH TWO OR MORE FABRIC FILMS**

DESCRIPTION

This patent application is an improvement of the Italian patent application No.

5 BO98U000080 (patent no.244759 of March 14, 2002).

The invention relates to a multilayer necktie of various chromatic combinations and, in particular, to a necktie provided with superimposing layers.

Neckties of the type presently known are made of one single portion of fabric of various types (for example silk, cotton etc.) produced according to traditional designs
10 including: a first section defining the main body of the necktie, also called the blade, a second central section, with a width smaller than the width of the previous first section, and destined to be tied around the user's neck in order to obtain, in conjunction with a third section, also called the tail, a knot around the front of the user's neck. Finally, the third section stands, when the necktie is in use, behind the above-mentioned first section
15 of the necktie.

The necktie, being a clothing accessory in constant use, has always been the subject of research to obtain new esthetic-technical solutions that might ease and widen the options of the user wearing it, to match it to the rest of the clothes, according to his personal taste.

20 For this purpose, the Applicant has designed and produced a multilayer necktie of various chromatic combinations, structured to offer the user a wider and more varied chromatic choice in an extremely practical and easy manner, while maintaining the traditional esthetic shape of the necktie unaltered.

The technical characteristics of the invention, according to the above-mentioned
25 purposes, are clearly described in the claims below and the advantages of the invention

- will be more evident in the detailed description below made with reference to the attached drawings, showing an embodiment of the invention, purely by way of non-exhaustive example, in which:
- figure 1 shows a multilayer necktie, according to the invention, in an exploded prospective view;
 - figure 2 shows a further variant of the multilayer necktie depicted in figure 1, in a prospective view;
 - figure 3 shows an additional and preferred variant of the multilayer necktie depicted in figure 1, in a prospective view;
 - 10 - figure 4 shows the necktie depicted in previous figures 1 and 2 in a knotted configuration and in front view;
 - figure 4a shows the same necktie of figure 4, again in front view, but with all four blades, of different sizes, lined up, as they actually tend to be when the necktie is knotted around the user's neck;
 - 15 - figure 4b shows a front view of the same necktie depicted in figures 1, 2, 4 and 4a, but knotted in a different fashion, with the two widest blades showing and the two narrower blades hidden behind the first two ones;
 - figure 5 shows a preferable variant of the necktie according to the invention, already depicted in figure 3, in a knotted configuration and in front view;
 - 20 - figure 5a shows the same necktie of figure 5, again in front view, but with all three blades of different sizes lined up as they actually tend to be when the necktie is knotted around the user's neck;
 - figure 5b shows, in front view, the same necktie depicted in figures 3, 5 and 5a, but knotted in a different fashion, with the widest blade showing on the user and two
 - 25 narrower blades hidden behind the first one;

- figures 6 and 7 show two alternative embodiments of the multilayer necktie, according to the invention, both in prospective view;
- figures 8 and 9 show two other versions of the multilayer necktie according to the invention, in two exploded prospective views;
- 5 - figures 10 and 11 also show two variants of the multilayer necktie, according to the invention, in two prospective views;
- figure 12 shows another variant of the multilayer necktie, according to the invention, in an exploded prospective view;
- figures 13 and 14 show two other variants of the multilayer necktie, according to the invention, both in prospective view;
- 10 - figure 15 shows a front view of the neckties depicted in previous figures 13 and 14 after they have been knotted;
- figure 16 also shows the neckties depicted in figures 13 and 14, in a front view portraying the final look of the above-mentioned neckties once knotted around the user's neck;
- 15 - figures 17 and 18 show other two variants of the multilayer necktie, according to the invention, in two exploded prospective views;
- figure 19 shows a front view of the necktie depicted in figure 17, after it has been knotted in a preferred and traditional fashion, namely with the so-called tail behind all the other blades;
- 20 - figure 20 shows the necktie again depicted in figures 17 and 19 in a front view portraying the final look of the above-mentioned necktie once knotted around the user's neck in the above-mentioned fashion;
- figure 21 shows a front view of the necktie depicted in the previous figure 18, after it has been knotted in a preferred and traditional fashion, namely with the so-called tail
- 25

behind all the other blades;

- finally figure 22, shows the necktie again depicted in figures 18 and 21 in a front view portraying the final look of the above-mentioned necktie once knotted around the user's neck in the above-mentioned manner.

5 As shown in the figures of the attached drawings, and with particular reference to figures 1 to 4, the multilayer necktie being considered, marked as a whole with 1, consists of a first portion of fabric P defined by three sections 2, 3 and 4 joined together without continuity solution. Each section 2, 3 and 4 defines a part of the necktie in its "knotted" form that can therefore be worn by a user (as shown in figure 4): the first
10 section 2 defines the so-called blade of the necktie 1 which, when in use, stands at the front of the user; the second section 3 defines the part around the user's neck and, together with the first section 2, when in use, makes a knot 5 of the necktie that stands at the front of the user's neck; finally, the third section 4 defines another blade also destined to be in view, at least partly.

15 As shown in figures 4 and 4a, the third section 4 lies, with the necktie 1 knotted according to a preferable fashion, behind the first section 2 of the necktie and partly showing, since it is as wide as, or preferably wider than, section 2.

A second fabric portion of fabric 6 is superimposed on this first portion P, which is joined or joinable to the same first portion by means of relevant attachments 7 (better
20 described below).

In a first embodiment of the necktie 1 (as shown with dash line in figure 1), the second portion 6 can have an extension S at least equal to the extension S' of the first section 2 and a dimension L6a, widthwise equal to, or preferably smaller than, the width L2 of the first section 2: in this way, a total covering, or preferably partial
25 covering, widthwise, of the same first section 2 of the first portion P is obtained.

In a second and preferable configuration of the necktie 1 being considered (as shown with dash line in figure 1), the second portion 6 can have an extension S1 equal to the expansion S'' resulting from adding the extensions of the first and second section 2 and 3 of the first portion P. Also in this case, the width sizes L6a and L6b of the
5 second portion 6 are equal to, or preferably smaller than, widths L2 and L3 of the two corresponding sections 2 and 3 in order to achieve a partial covering of the first and second section of the first portion P.

This second and preferable embodiment can be seen also in figure 3, where the length S1 of the second portion 6 is equal to, or shorter than, only by value D, the
10 sum of the lengths of section 2 and 3 of the first portion P.

In a third embodiment depicted in figures 1 and 2, the second portion 6 can consist of three sections 6a, 6b, 6c, similar to the above-mentioned first, second and third sections 2, 3 and 4 of the first portion P. Also in this third case, the width sizes L6a, L6b and L6c of the second portion 6 are equal to, or preferably smaller than, widths
15 L2, L3 and L4 of the corresponding three sections 2, 3 and 4, so as to achieve only a partial covering of the first, second and third section of the first portion P. Preferably, the first, second and third section 6a, 6b, 6c of the second portion 6 define a length Lu shorter than the length Lu' of the corresponding three sections 2, 3 and 4 of the first portion P, in order to obtain such a superimposition as to achieve a uniform vision of
20 both portions P and 6 of the necktie 1.

As it can be seen in figures 1, 2, 4 and 4a, the third section 4 of the first portion P has a width L4 equal to, or preferably greater than, the width L6c of the third section 6c of the second portion 6; length L6c, in turn, is equal to, or preferably longer than, the width L2 of the first section 2 of the first portion P; length L2, in turn, is equal to, or
25 preferably longer than, the width L6a of the first section 6a of the second portion 6.

Likewise, in the preferable case of a necktie made according to the invention, having only three blades, as shown in figures 3, 5 and 5a, the width L4 of the third section 4 of the first portion P will be equal to, or preferably greater than, the width L2 of the first section 2 of the first portion P; in turn, this width L2 will be equal to, or preferably greater than, the width L6a of the first section 6a of the second portion 6.

All of this has the clear aim of showing, when the necktie is knotted around the user's neck, at least one portion of the three or four blades included in the necktie, each one with its own characteristics in terms of fabric, color, pattern etc.

This objective, i.e. showing at least one portion of the three blades included in the necktie according to the invention, when it is knotted and in sight on the user, can also be reached by producing neckties like those depicted in figures 13 and 14, that are similar to those that are the subject of the above-mentioned patent application No.

BO98U000080. In figure 13 the second portion 6 consists of the section 6c with an extension S2 equal to, or slightly shorter than, the extension S''' of section 4 of the first section P; the width L6c of said section 6c of portion 6 is equal to, or preferably smaller than, the width L4 of the third section 4 of the first portion P and equal to, or preferably greater than, the width L2 of the first section 2 of the first portion P. In figure 14, on the other hand, the second portion 6 consists of sections 6b and 6c and has an extension S3 equal to, or slightly smaller than, the extension S'''' consisting of sections 3 and 4 of the first portion P; the widths L6b and L6c of the above-mentioned sections 6b and 6c of the portion 6 are equal to, or preferably smaller than, the widths of the corresponding sections 3 and 4 of the first portion P and equal to, or preferably greater than, width L2 of the first section 2 of the first portion P. In both of the above-mentioned cases, however, the neckties depicted in figures 13 and 14 will feature a knot 5' (see figures 15 and 16), when all three blades are in sight on the user, different

from the previous knot 5 that can be obtained with the neckties depicted in figures 1 to 3: the knot 5', in particular, will be monochrome, whereas knot 5 in figures 4, 4a, 5 and 5a consists, as shown in the relevant figures, of two components St1 and St2 that can be referred to as strips, having different chromatic characteristics. Furthermore, 5 knot 5' must be made with a strip of fabric too thin to be aesthetically acceptable, for portion 6c in figures 15 and 16 to be well visible, though only partly, also in the upper part of the necktie, namely in contact with the knot 5'. This particular aesthetic look of knot 5 of the necktie produced according to the invention, which is easily distinguishable from traditional necktie knots (which is what 5' can be said to be) 10 because of its two colors, is an extra element aimed at facilitating aesthetic matching when the user is choosing what necktie to wear. For example, it can be noticed how knot 5, made with a double strip of fabric, suits double-collar shirts very well – that are currently very fashionable – or provides a range of colors to facilitate, as already said, the suitability with the rest of the clothing items, especially when the necktie 15 considered is worn covered, maybe almost completely, by a waistcoat or a “V” neck pullover.

Naturally, a different aesthetic look of the necktie would be achieved, obviously for improvement purposes, even if all or part of the blades were made of the same fabric, color and pattern, if any.

20 With reference to figures 1, 2 and 4b it should be pointed out that the widths L4 and L6c, of sections 4 and 6c respectively, are equal to, or preferably greater than, the width L6a of section 6a and the width L2 of section 2, also so that sections 6c and 4 can cover both sections 6a and 2, as shown in figure 4b, simply by knotting the necktie around the user's neck in a different fashion. In this way, the same necktie 25 display, when worn by the user, two single blades, instead of four. The same necktie

can therefore feature two different aesthetic looks when knotted around the user's neck.

Likewise, with reference to figures 3 and 5b, it can be seen that in the case of a necktie with only three blades, as preferable, the width L4 of the third section 4 of the first portion P is equal to, or preferably greater than, the width L6a of the section 6a and the width L2 of the section 2, also so that section 4 can cover both sections 6a and 2, as depicted in figure 5b, simply by knotting the necktie around the user's neck in a different fashion. Therefore, the necktie in figure 3 can look as shown in figure 5b, namely like a totally traditional necktie, also in the knot, showing only one blade on the user. The same necktie in figure 3, with a configuration preferred to the one in figure 2, can take on two different aesthetic looks when knotted around the user's neck, showing only one blade or three blades according to the user's preferences.

Figures 8 and 9 show two additional exploded versions of the necktie 1 in which the already mentioned sections 2, 3 and 4 of the first portion P and 6a, 6b and 6c (the latter only shown in figure 8) of the second portion 6, are clearly visible and can be joined by the necktie producer or the by user, by means of attachments 7, so as to obtain the two already mentioned portions P and 6 making up the final necktie 1.

As it is well known, there are different ways of making the knot of a necktie, which is visible, for example, in figures 4a and 5a. In order to allow the user of a necktie according to the invention, to knot it the way he pleases, the necktie 1 can have, when laid on a base, like in figure 10, the surfaces of the blades destined to be visible when the necktie is knotted around the user's neck, not all facing the same side: in the case in figure 10, for example, sections 2 and 6a have their respective surfaces Pv2 and Pv6a, i.e. those surfaces that for each of the above-mentioned blades will be destined to be visible on the user, both facing upwards; the section 4 of the first portion P, on the

other hand, has its surface, destined to be visible on the user and marked with Pv4, facing downwards, therefore the opposite side compared to Pv2 and Pv6a, while the surface that can be called Pr4 rear with the traditional line connection G will be facing upwards.

- 5 Again for the same reason, namely to allow the user to knot the necktie as usually done with a traditional necktie or as the user prefers, the necktie according to the invention, can be made as depicted in figure 11, showing a necktie 1 having the second and the third section 3 and 4 of the first portion P made in “reversible” fashion, a widely known fashion, i.e. with both surfaces Pv4 and Pr4 of the blade (consisting of sections 3
10 and 4) suitable to be visible on the user, without the line connection G that is usually present on the back of any traditional necktie.

The two surfaces Pr4 and Pv4 are depicted as the same in figure 11, but, naturally, they could also be made of different fabrics and/or with different chromatic patterns: in this case the reversible option of sections 3 and 4 of the first portion P is not so much
15 meant to allow the user to knot the necktie in the way he prefers, but to give the user another option when choosing the final chromatic combination of the necktie.

Figure 12 shows an exploded view of a necktie according to the invention, consisting of four portions A, B, C and D, which in turn include the usual sections 2, 3 and 4 of portion P (which in turn in this case consists of portions A and B) and sections 6a, 6b
20 and 6c of portion 6 (which in turn in this case consists of portions C and D). The peculiarity of this additional variant of a necktie according to the invention lies in that each portion A, B, C and D (or only some of them) is reversible and is matched to the others by means of attachments 7, according to the preferences of the user, who can choose for each of the portions A, B, C and possibly D, which side to show, thereby
25 selecting the final aesthetic combination of the necktie.

Finally, it is possible to have a necktie made according to the invention, in which the first portion P consists of the already mentioned portion B and the second portion 6 consists of the already mentioned portions D, A and, possibly C (in the case of a necktie with four blades), arranged, in an irresolvable manner by the producer or resolvable by the user, one on top of the other (see figures 17 and 18). By knotting the above-mentioned necktie in a traditional fashion, namely in such a way that the so-called tail Co remains behind all of the other sections, with the necktie knotted and visible on the user, knot 5'' (see figures 19 and 20), formed by four different visible strips of fabric St6, St7, St8, St9, for the necktie with four blades in figure 17, and knot 5''' (see figures 21 and 22), formed by three different visible strips of fabric St3, St4 and St5, for the necktie with three blades in figure 18, are obtained respectively.

The necktie 1 obtained by superimposing the two portions P and 6 is kept in this configuration by means of the above-mentioned attachments 7, which can be of the irreversible type (see figure 2 in particular) and stand between two non-visible counter-faced surfaces of the two portions P and 6. In the case illustrated, and purely by way of example, the two portions P and 6 are held by a series of stitches C along the perimeter of the second portion 6.

In another embodiment, the second portion 6 can be bound to the first portion P by means of attachments 7 of the reversible type, which always stand between two counter-faced surfaces Ps and 6s of the two portions P and 6. Purely by way of example, the above-mentioned attachments 7 can include a series of popper buttons 8 evenly placed between the two counter-faced surfaces Ps and 6s of the two portions P and 6 (see figure 1).

A reversible variant of the above-mentioned attachments 7 (see figure 1) can include several strips 9 of material applied to the relevant counter-faced surfaces Ps and 6s of

the two portions P and 6, fitted with a tear attachment/detachment surface 10, reciprocal (for example, this material could be what is commercially known as “Velcro”).

Two additional alternative embodiments of the above-mentioned attachments 7 are shown in figures 6 and 7: in figure 6 the second portion 6 is superimposed on the first portion P and held by the same by means of a series of small transversal bands 10 in line with the first portion P and suitable to be bond to the second portion 6, that can be replaced by unbinding it from the first portion P; in figure 7 the above-mentioned attachments 7 include a series of stitches C' binding the second portion 6, in the second and third section 6b and 6c, to the first section P, while the first section 6a is firmly bound to section 2 for example by means of one or more of the above-mentioned popper buttons 8 or by means of a chain 11 (see figures 3, 5 and 5a) linked to the first portion P which, when the necktie is being worn by the user, joins section 6a with section 2 and these two, in turn, with section 4. In the less preferable case of a necktie with four blades rather than three, the same chain 11 linked to the section 4 of the first portion P (see figure 4 and 4a) can join, when the necktie is knotted around the user's neck, all three sections 6a, 2 and 6c to the above-mentioned section 4.

A necktie with this structure reaches the set objectives thanks to a very simple arrangement that allows the user, particularly in the version with interchangeable portions, to choose in a fast and easy manner the chromatic matching and the patterns of the portions of the necktie according to the other items of clothing he has decided to wear.

The wider choice offered and the special arrangement of the necktie in no way alter the aesthetic characteristics of the necktie and, on the other hand, enhance the personalization options of this clothing item with a view to the final user.

The offer of more chromatic and pattern matching options for the necktie makes this

- solution more economical since, with a basic portion and a certain number of superimposing portions or vice versa, a high number of matching options can be obtained, without having to buy more traditional neckties and this convenience and economic advantage remain both in case of the attachments of the various portions
- 5 being resolvable and non resolvable; by way of example, it is worth thinking of how, according to this invention, it is possible to make a necktie of various colors, therefore easier to suit to different types of clothing, also starting from simple pieces of one-color fabrics, which are often the only ones available on the market “on stock”, without having to order huge amounts with long delivery terms.
- 10 Naturally the necktie can also be “made to measure” to enhance its final esthetic look even more, by superimposing several blades.

This invention is susceptible to changes and variants, all included in the concept of the invention. Moreover, all of the details can be replaced with technically equivalent elements.